

UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

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Saturday, November 16, 2024

Insulation (or lack thereof)



In our prior election analysis, we noted that the governor had called a special session of the legislature to try and insulate California from the incoming administration.* We also noted that it would be hard to insulate UC, because of its dependence on federal funds and various forms of federal regulation.

In pursuit of his insulation goals, the governor went to DC recently to try and get the Biden folks to assist. [Politico](#) has a list of what he requested help on:

Disaster aid: *It's tough to parse which threats Trump may follow through on, but Newsom appears to be taking Trump's promise to withhold disaster relief funding from California seriously...*

Electric cars: *Newsom will advocate for the eight waivers that California still hasn't received from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to let it phase out fossil fuel-burning cars, trucks and trains...*

Land preservation: *Newsom has thrown his weight behind campaigns led by environmental and tribal groups asking Biden to designate three new national monuments: the Kwa'san National Monument and the Chuckwalla National Monument in the Southern California desert, and the Sattitla National Monument in the Shasta-Trinity highlands in Northern California...*

Federal health waivers: *California has several big health care programs pending federal approval, including efforts related to reproductive health, behavioral health and funding for Medicaid. The two programs Newsom is focusing on most for this trip are getting approval on a behavioral health program that uses Medicaid dollars to strengthen the broader system for mental health care so people have treatment options outside of institutional settings. He's also gunning for approval of the state's MCO tax, which could bring in billions at almost no cost. Voters just overwhelmingly said they wanted this tax to be renewed by approving the statewide ballot measure Proposition 35.*







High-speed rail: *Another big pot of money with a target on its back is California's embattled high-speed rail project, which is relying on billions of dollars in federal funding to complete the Central Valley leg of the route that could eventually connect Los Angeles to San Francisco...*

Full story at <https://www.politico.com/news/2024/11/12/gavin-newsom-trump-proofing-california-00188951>.

As can be seen above, none of these goals directly involve higher ed or UC. Possibly, however, UC med centers might indirectly benefit from the MCO tax, to the extent that it brings additional money into the California health system.

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*<https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2024/11/election-analysis.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:30 AM](#) No comments:      

Labels: [governor](#), [legislature](#), [politics](#), [UC](#)

Friday, November 15, 2024

You won't have a "wonderful day" if you reply

The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- [Faculty File Historic Academic Freedom Unfair Labor Practice Charges Against UC](#)
- [Union Letter to UC with Benefits Demands](#)
- [We Oppose Deprofessionalizing Librarians](#)
- [We Oppose AB-1418's Inadequate Protection from the Harms of Facial Recognition Tech](#)
- [We Oppose SB-1287's Restrictions on Protected Speech](#)

Remaking the University

- [Liner Note 9. BONFIRE OF THE KNOWLEDGES \(PART 4\): Interpretation as Counterpower - 12/31/2024](#)
- [MLA and BDS 3: Letter from Current and Former Members of the MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities to MLA Executive Director and Executive Council on Blocking the Debate - 12/30/2024](#)
- [MLA and BDS 2: Letter from former members of the MLA Executive Council to Current Executive Council on Blocking the Debate - 12/29/2024](#)

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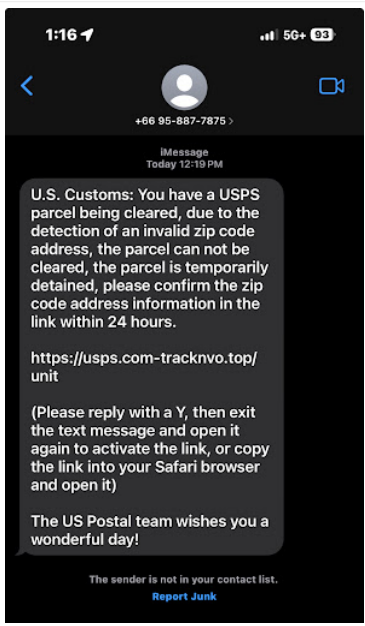
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- [UCB Faculty Association](#)
- [Council of UC Faculty Associations](#)

Other Faculty Organizations






- [American Association of University Professors](#)
- [California Faculty Association \(NEA\)](#)
- [UC-AFT](#)

Topics

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You know better than to respond, don't you?

Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:52 PM No comments:     

Labels: email fraud






♪Take Us Out of the Ball Game♪ - Part 7 (parking)

From the [LA Times](#): The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has issued an emergency stay stopping work on the installation of more than 100 units of modular housing on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles campus. The stay blocks purchase of the modular units and prohibits a development team assembled by U.S. District Judge David O. Carter from accessing three parking lots on the 388-acre campus to begin the site preparation.

After a four-week trial in August, Carter ordered the VA to produce 1,800 new supportive housing units on the campus and 750 temporary housing units. His ruling also invalidated leases of VA property, including to UCLA and Brentwood School, and ordered the VA to increase its outreach staff. He subsequently backed off that number of temporary units, while issuing an emergency order to immediately build up to 200, including 32 on the parking lot of UCLA's Jackie Robinson baseball stadium...

Full story at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-11-11/u-s-appeals-court-stops-work-on-modular-shelters-on-the-vas-west-los-angeles-campus>.



Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:15 AM No comments:     

Labels: athletics, UCLA

But apart from that...

From the [LA Times](#): UCLA failed to protect students from a protest melee this spring because a "highly chaotic" decision-making process, lack of communication among campus leaders and police, and other shortfalls led to institutional paralysis, according to a University of California independent review released Thursday. The highly anticipated review, conducted by a national law enforcement consulting agency, found myriad failures and breakdowns by UCLA administrators and police after pro-Palestinian students set up a late April encampment, which drew complaints of antisemitic behavior. The encampment came under a violent attack by counterprotesters in early May, fomenting widespread outrage and attention.

The review found that UCLA had no detailed plan for handling major protests, even as problems were "reasonably foreseeable" as encampments springing up at other campuses were drawing at times violent conflict. UCLA leaders had not identified who should control decision-making and at times shut out campus police from meetings. For their part, campus police had no effective plan to work with external law enforcement and failed to take command on the night of the melee — leading the LAPD and the California Highway Patrol to devise an ad-hoc response, the review said...



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Contributors

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Full story at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-11-14/ucla-slammed-for-chaotic-response-to-violent-protest-melee-in-uc-independent-review>.

The report described above is at:

<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/sites/default/files/2024-11/UCLA-independent-investigation-and-after-action-review-recommendations-21CP-solutions.pdf>.

Also: <https://ia800402.us.archive.org/9/items/2-final-hjaa-report.-the-soil-beneath-the-encampments/UCLA-independent-investigation-and-after-action-review-recommendations-21CP-solutions-Nov%202024.pdf>.

Note: A report from the LAPD on the UCLA events can be found at:

https://www.lapdpolicecom.lacity.org/110524/BPC_24-285.pdf.

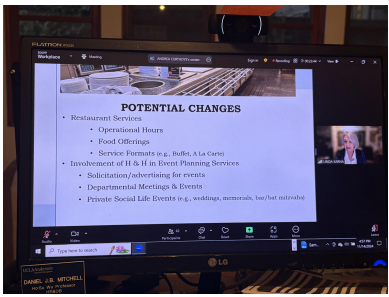
Also: <https://ia600402.us.archive.org/9/items/2-final-hjaa-report.-the-soil-beneath-the-encampments/LAPD%20report%20on%20UCLA%2011-5-2024.pdf>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments:      

Labels: UCLA

Thursday, November 14, 2024

More on the Faculty Club



At a Zoom meeting today, UCLA Faculty Club president Linda Sarna reported that the current business plan of the Club is not working and that the new plan is to have the campus Housing and Hospitality service run the food and booking operation.






She provided assurance that other aspects of the Club would continue.

It was said that a transcript or summary of the meeting would be provided on the Club website for members.

We had previously posted that this change would be coming.*

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*<https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2024/11/faculty-club-transition.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 5:56 PM No comments:      

Labels: faculty center, UCLA

Money Shortage

We will be posting about this week's Regents meetings as time permits. The Good News is that we can now upload to the Internet Archive again after the cyber attack about which we have posted. So we can continue preserving recordings of Regents meetings. The Bad News is that the Internet Archive is not fully back to what it was. It sometimes becomes unavailable and - once something is successfully posted - no corrections (typos, etc.) can be entered thereafter. But we will persevere. And here is a preview of what the Regents were discussing from the [LA Times](#):









The University of California wants to enroll nearly 3,600 more California students in the next academic year but is bracing for a looming budget crunch that could make it difficult to pay for increased enrollment. UC officials told regents Wednesday that the 10-campus university system could face a \$504.7-million financial shortfall in 2025-26 if the state makes good on warnings earlier this year to reduce higher education funding as it grapples with a budget deficit. Lower state funding, along with higher costs primarily driven by faculty and staff pay increases, larger retirement plan contributions and more expensive healthcare, are projected to create that yawning UC budget hole.

"We're facing a really tough budget year from the state," Chief Financial Officer Nathan Brostrom told regents, who are meeting in San Francisco this week...

[The question is] is whether UCLA, UC Berkeley and UC San Diego will still give an additional 902 California students highly coveted seats in place of out-of-state and international students if the state cuts back funding that offsets the loss of the higher tuition that nonresidents pay...

Full story at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-11-14/uc-wants-to-enroll-3-600-more-california-students-next-year-but-may-hit-funding-shortfalls>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 7:36 AM No comments:      

Labels: admissions, State Budget, UC enrollment, UC Regents, UC-Berkeley, UC-San Diego, UCLA

UC's New Approach to Labor Relations - Part 3









In earlier posts, we have noted the professionalization of the labor relations function at UC since the 2022 student-worker strike. Part of the new approach is to publicize benefits and respond in public to developments in union relations, as the image above illustrates.

The three messages shown above are at:

<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/statement-afscme-notice-strike>;

<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/statement-upta-notice-strike>; and

<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/statement-health-care-costs-union-represented-employees>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:      

Labels: UC, UCOP

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